The SPS Connection

September/October 2006

Save the Date!
2007 SPS Users Conference
Feb. 26 – Mar. 2, 2007
Mark your calendars now!

Tips & Tricks for *Right Now*: FPDS-NG

In our previous issue we took a look at "FPDS-NG - The Big Picture." Now that implementation is fully underway, we would like to focus on some tips from our training materials to help get everyone up to speed.

Accessing FPDS-NG

- Normally, users should always access FPDS-NG from within PD2. (Select "FPDS-NG Reporting" under the Procurement menu.) Only systems administrators may be required to login directly to the FPDS-NG web site without first logging in to PD2.

Contract Action Reports

- Clicking on the FPDS-NG CAR Icon from within PD2 will open up the CAR in FPDS-NG.

- Whenever a CAR is edited, authenticated or finalized, associated data from the corresponding PD2 document will be refreshed and overwritten.

Read Full Article

2007 SPS Users' Conference Heads West

New Technology and New Frontiers Meet in Denver

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Call for Focus Group Volunteers

Are you an SPS user? Do you have thoughts about SPS and what we can do to improve the system? Here's your chance to make your voice heard!

SPS-JPMO is looking for volunteers to participate in focus group sessions throughout the months of September and October. The sessions will be conducted by an outside communications firm, and will explore users' thoughts on the SPS software, the upcoming deployment of...

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Upcoming Events

Classes and events can do much to improve the way you work. Some upcoming informative programs include:

Intermediate Acquisition, Part A

eSF44 Update

Reporting From Djibouti, Horn of Africa

Date/Location: Anytime/Distance learning (online)
Overview: Mid-level acquisitions professionals will learn systems acquisition principles and processes.

Information/Registration: http://www.dau.mil *(Make sure the actual hyperlink address is to:*

Additional Benefit: 6 CEUs

Read Full Article

Founded during the great "Pikes Peak or Bust Gold Rush" of 1859, Denver today is home to the country's largest city park system, a mountain panorama visible from the city that's over 140 miles long, and 300 days of annual sunshine – more hours of sun than either San Diego or Miami. Add in one of the country's most walkable downtowns, and you've got a destination offering visitors the best in adventure, beauty, weather, and culture.

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Read Full Article

Navy and Marine Corps Service Talk

v4.2.2 SR07 Upgrades

In support of the Department of Defense's transition to FPDS-NG, all SPS sites will need to be upgraded to v4.2.2 Service Release 7. The Navy sites which have transitioned to FPDS-NG have already upgraded, but the remaining Navy and Marine Corps sites should also plan on this upgrade being completed by 1 November 2006. In support of the sites which have SPS on the NMCI desktop (in lieu of Citrix), NAVSISA is coordinating the NMCI CLIN 47 and 48 (enterprise push) process and we're on track to complete the push to the affected sites on several weekends in October.

Read Full Article

Army Service Talk

Army Completes Upgrade to PD2 v4.2 Increment 2

The Army has successfully completed the upgrade of PD2 from version v4.2 Increment 1 to Increment 2. The upgrade process began in July 2005 and just recently ended in June 2006. Unlike the 4.2 Increment 1 upgrade from version 4.1e, the v4.2 Increment 2 upgrade was a self-upgrade where sites were expected to upgrade their own database servers, client machines and application servers. System Administrators backed up databases, upgraded to new versions of Sybase, and applied service releases to the PD2 database, the Application Server, and all client machines. Of the 89 v4.2 Increment 2 upgrades that took place, 63% of the upgrades were performed solely by the System Administrators, without on-site support.

Read Full Article

Inside the SPS-JPMO

Gino Magnifico, Deputy Program Manager

Have you ever wondered about how the SPS JPMO goes about designing, developing and deploying the Standard Procurement System? We hope you will enjoy this new section designed to highlight the people and processes involved.

Each issue will profile a different insider's perspective through a dialogue about the JPMO's daily performance. This month, we spotlight Gino Magnifico, Deputy Program Manager.

Read Full Article

Change is coming! The SPS Connection will soon be getting a facelift. Send us your suggestions for improvements. Thanks to everyone who participated in our recent logo survey! Your input is helping to guide current branding efforts.

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Contract Action Reports

- Clicking on the FPDS-NG CAR Icon from within PD2 will open up the CAR in FPDS-NG.

- Whenever a CAR is edited, authenticated or finalized, associated data from the corresponding PD2 document will be refreshed and overwritten. If data is missing in PD2, PD2 will send blank values to FPDS-NG.

- Remember, certain fields in the CAR populate from data within PD2; therefore, correcting the CAR so that it passes validation may often entail correcting the source of the data within PD2.

- For CAR-required information that does not populate from the PD2 database, you will be transferred to the FPDS-NG website for direct access to the CAR, to complete the form online. Whenever you edit the CAR online, do not forget to click the "Save Draft" button to save your changes.

- Similar to other documents in PD2, you can search for CARs, edit, delete and route them within your activity's database.

- Unlike the edit checks for DD350s and DD1057s, which were stored and run within each PD2 database, all the edit checks (validations) for the new Contract Action Reports (CARs) are maintained and run on the FPDS-NG website.

- When creating a CAR for a contract modification or order, most of the CAR data will be automatically pulled into the CAR from the basic contract, provided the basic contract CAR is already in the FPDS-NG database.

Draft

Authenticated

- Once a CAR has been "Validated" with no errors on FPDS-NG, the CAR must be "Authenticated" from within PD2. A small letter "A" will appear on the CAR icon in PD2 indicating that 1) the CAR has passed all FPDS-NG edit checks, 2) the CAR has not been edited since the validation was performed, and 3) the associated contract document has not been edited since the validation was performed. Authentication ensures that the CAR accurately reflects the data in the Contract document.

- The new business process minimizes the retyping of data once it has been recorded into PD2 and FPDS-NG. Each time preexisting data is pre-filled from the contract document, it reduces the probability of errors resulting from manual entry into the CAR. This data re-use functionality, along with significant edit checks performed during the validation process, will greatly facilitate the increased accuracy and reliability of DoD's contract reporting data.

Fun Denver Fact #1: Did you know that SPS-JPMO will be in Denver this March to bring Tips & Tricks directly to you? To learn more about Denver and the upcoming 2007 Users Conference, visit the article in this issue of The SPS Connection.

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Founded during the great "Pikes Peak or Bust Gold Rush" of 1859, Denver today is home to the country's largest city park system, a mountain panorama visible from the city that's over 140 miles long, and 300 days of annual sunshine – more hours of sun than either San Diego or Miami. Add in one of the country's most walkable downtowns, and you've got a destination offering visitors the best in adventure, beauty, weather, and culture.

Attendees of the 2007 SPS Users' Conference – set for February 26 through March 2, 2007 – will stay at the Adam's Mark in the heart of downtown Denver. Just blocks from the city's 16th Street Mall – a mile-long pedestrian promenade lined with outdoor cafes, entertainment centers, and shops – attendees will love the hotel's accessible location, as well as its four restaurants, three lounges, and on-site nightclub. With the Denver Art Museum and State Capitol within walking distance, and Pepsi Center and Coors Field just minutes away, the opportunities are endless.

As for the weather, don't worry about the "snowy impediments" typically associated with Colorado. Unbeknownst to most outsiders, Denver temperatures average 45 degrees in February, and have been known to reach as high as 60 degrees. Snow falls only infrequently in the city itself, making Denver dryer than Phoenix in the winter. A combination of crisp air and warm sun may make walking the 16th Street Mall an even more enjoyable experience in late winter than at the height of summer!

For visitors looking for that quick respite after learning the latest in SPS and PD2, the city is home to 90 golf courses, more than 600 miles of paved trails, and over 2,000 restaurants. Discover the Denver Art Museum, a piece of art in itself, with 28 sides covered in one million gray glass tiles to reflect the sun in patterns making up the exterior of the building; Civic Center Park, with its vibrant flower gardens, fountains, and Old West bronze statues; and the U.S. Mint, where visitors can take advantage of free tours to watch the process of "making money."

Denver is also one of only two cities (Philadelphia is the other) that is home to eight professional sports teams, making it pretty certain that someone will be playing while you're in town!

History buffs can tour the Colorado State Capitol. While you're there, be sure to have your picture taken on the 13th step on the west side of the building – it's located at 5,280 feet: exactly one mile above sea level. There's also the Colorado History Museum, which tells the colorful story of the gold miners, cowboys, soldiers, and explorers who were first to call Colorado home; as well as Buffalo Bill's Grave & Museum. Located at the top of Lookout Mountain among spectacular panoramic views, the museum brings the famous frontier scout, buffalo hunter, and showman back to life through vivid storytelling.

While many associate Denver with skiing, the Old West, or outdoor adventure, this energetic young city has something for virtually everyone. As one of the country's fastest-growing areas, Denver represents the best of "new frontiers."

Be on the lookout for more details on the 2007 SPS Users' Conference and information on how to register in upcoming issues of The SPS Connection. You can also visit our website, at www.spscoe.sps.eis.army.mil. And be on the lookout for more "Denver Fun Facts" throughout this issue of The SPS Connection!

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Army Service Talk

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While System Administrators conducted the upgrade, the users were involved in learning the new functionality that came with v4.2 Increment 2 by utilizing such tools as the v4.2 Increment 2 computer based training (CBT). After the system was finally upgraded, the users took on the task of testing the success of the upgrade by performing the Measures of Success (MOS) testing.

Everyone is to be commended for their hard work and diligence during this stressful upgrade. Their efforts are evident in the following statistics from the past 12 months of the upgrade process:

• Number of Army Sites Installed/Upgraded: **89**
• Number of PD2 Databases Installed/Upgraded: **196**
• Number of Users Installed/Upgraded with PD2: **9,900**
• Number of Commands Installed/Upgraded with PD2: **18** (CONUS and OCONUS).
• Army PD2 v4.2 Increment 2 Service Requests opened (July 2005 – June 2006): **3,215**
• Army PD2 v4.2 Increment 2 Service Requests closed (July 2005 – June 2006): **3,133**

Army PD2 Functional Questions and Answers

Contracting is a sophisticated business, but that does not make it immune to time pressures. PD2 was designed to streamline the contracting process to help personnel meet their mission-critical deadlines. So, when bumps in the road occur, users and SAs want answers. The following answers to some common functional questions are provided by Ms. Lori Higgins, a PD2 functional contracting subject matter expert, and a member of the Army Response Team. The goal is to offer a quick reference guide to assist users move forward, and to prevent wasting time!

Q: *"When I create Delivery Order modifications in Increment 2 from External Awards created in Increment 1, the modification number starts over with 01. Is there a faster way to fix this than opening a Service Request?"*
A: Prior to release, one workaround is to click on "Release" and, when the window opens and identifies the next number for the PCO/ACO, click on "Cancel" and select "Release." Repeat this action until you

receive the correct mod number. Another option is to choose an 'A' mod or 'P' mod, then toggle between the 'A' and 'P' radio buttons, until it defaults to the correct number. If you release the modification, the Authorized Caller (AC) will have to open a Service Request so that it can be renumbered using Script-Aid. This requires a Security Code from the SPS Help Desk after approval from Fort Lee.

Q: *"For GSA Delivery Orders and unreleased Modifications to a SF1449, PRs cannot be attached using Menu ---> Line Items. What is the alternative?"*
A: The AC will have to open a Service Request and obtain a Security Code from the SPS Help Desk. Using Script-Aid, run the "Allow CLIN Attachment to SF1449 GSA Order" script. Follow the instructions closely and coordinate actions with your user. Otherwise, Blocks 2 and 4 of the SF1449 will not populate properly, and will require a request for a Tracking Script to resolve the issue.

Q: *"When I open a Purchase Request in Print Preview, it cites zeroes for the Total Funding, but the lines of accounting and committed dollar amounts are shown correctly on the last page under Contract Administration Data. Will this cause problems later?"*
A: This issue does not affect the system functionalities and validations. The committed amount is reflected in the Funding Status window and users and Contracting Officers will not receive an insufficient funds message. The only inconsistency is that on the front of the PR, the total funding displays $0.00.

Q: *"Printed documents created prior to the Increment 2 upgrade did not require a CIN, but documents created after the upgrade do. What is the most efficient way to deal with this issue?"*
A: The "CIN" is the "Commitment Identification Number" and consists of the PR number plus the line item number on the PR. It is not the contract line item number, although they can be the same. If there is no PR, the CIN will consist of thirty zeroes. Once a document is released, the CIN cannot be changed or edited, even if unapproved. Documents created prior to Increment 2 upgrade will not have a CIN. Post-upgrade line items must have a CIN or the user will receive a message stating that a CIN is required. A script can be run to add a CIN so that a document can be released.

Fun Denver Fact #376:
There are 200 named peaks visible from Denver, including 32 that soar to 13,000 feet and above.
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Call for Focus Group Volunteers!

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SPS-JPMO is looking for volunteers to participate in focus group sessions throughout the months of September and October. The sessions will be conducted by an outside communications firm, and will explore users' thoughts on the SPS software, the upcoming deployment of Increment 3, and what kinds of communication about SPS you would find most valuable.

We're asking you to participate in one, two-hour focus group session scheduled in your area. We hope to host between five and ten participants in each session. Your input and suggestions will remain anonymous and will not be attributable to you.

If you or your office is interested in participating, please contact Brad Dwin at PCI Communications, at bdwin@pcicom.com, or call 703-823-1600 x109.

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eSF44 Update: Reporting From Djibouti, Horn of Africa

Since starting pilot testing in Iraq a few months ago, the eSF44 has won many hearts and minds within the Department of Defense. Providing the Warfighter with convenient, efficient technology that also reduces errors and provides more powerful data on the back end, the eSF44 is poised to take in-theater procurement to a whole new level.

The current stop on the eSF44's journey to universal deployment is Djibouti, on the Horn of Africa. This July, the handheld technology embarked on a six-month, real world test at the Joint Combined Task Force-HOA Contracting Center. There, 45 teams of personnel will use the eSF44 to make small purchases (below the micropurchase threshold) as they complete missions throughout the Horn of Africa region – an area roughly half the size of the United States. Testing will be based out of Camp Lemonier in Djibouti, the base of operations for all of the HOA.

While pilot tests in Iraq helped to determine whether the concept of a handheld procurement tool would be accepted in the field, as well as work out some of the initial bugs, this stage of testing is designed to delve more deeply in to software issues, as well as identify ways the information provided by the system can be used in strategic decision making.

"The first round proved the principle; this is the acid test. We'll get to see both from the user level and the administrative level how the system works, how useful it is, and how useful the data we can pull really is," says MAJ Ed Pettengill, assistant program manager for SPS-C.

Talks have already begun with the services to begin deployment of the technology once field testing in Djibouti has been completed, as well as any post-testing adjustments. MAJ Pettengill said that early feedback from all of the services had been favorable, with Air Force already conducting a pilot training session for the device with new airmen, Army more fully coordinating integration with the SPS-JPMO, and Navy and Marine personnel both participating in the current round of testing.

With two stops down on its journey to full deployment, the eSF44 is making an impression wherever it goes. We'll be sure to keep you updated as testing and deployment moves forward.

Fun Denver Fact #439:
With less water vapor in the air at this altitude, the sky really is bluer in Colorado. View article.

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v4.2.3 (Increment 3) Government Verification and Validation Testing Now Complete

On July 31st, Increment 3, Build 5 began testing in the JPMO Government Test Facility (GTF) in Fairfax, VA. Testing ran through mid September. Rhonda Crow at NAVSISA was the Navy SPS Test Director (Rhonda.crow@navy.mil or 717 605-5723) coordinating the Navy and Marine Corps testing efforts. **Many thanks to the Navy and Marine Corps SPS users who volunteered to test this version of the SPS.** For this round of testing, the JPMO GTF was the only facility with the test databases in place. For Software Acceptance Testing in the fall of 2006, we'll be permitted to test the software on our Navy Test Environment, which is being established at SPAWAR Headquarters in San Diego. The testers will be in Fairfax, VA and in Mechanicsburg, PA, but the hardware/software will be in San Diego in an NMCI test environment.

FPDS-NG/SPS/WAWF Training Day "Road Show" a HIT!

Almost 700 Navy and Marine Corps users have attended the Road Shows that were conducted during June and July around the country. Many thanks to all who helped coordinate the logistics and to all the attendees for your questions/concerns. We do not have any more trips planned this fiscal year, but will help set up some FPDS-NG training in October at two locations (Patuxent River and Charleston, SC).

As discussed during the FPDS-NG training, if your site has transitioned to FPDS-NG and you encounter any problems reporting your CARs, please contact your site's SPS Help Desk Authorized Caller who will contact the SPS JPMO Help Desk as the first stop on the problem resolution.

Fun Denver Fact #84:
The 16th Street Mall has free shuttles leaving from its ends every 90 seconds – giving visitors easy access to many of Denver's attractions. View article.

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Each issue will profile a different insider's perspective through a dialogue about the JPMO's daily performance. This month, we spotlight Gino Magnifico, Deputy Program Manager.

<u>**Vital Stats:**</u>

Name: Gino Magnifico
Title: Deputy Program Manager, SPS-JPMO
Time with SPS-JPMO: 5 years this October
Time with DoD: 30 years; started out in the Air Force

Connection: Gino, thanks for sitting down with us today. To start us off, why don't you give our readers how you see your role in the JPMO?
Gino: My role at the JPMO is to facilitate the daily operations of the SPS JPMO for the program manager, COL Quentin Peach. That means I make sure that our JPMO Team gets the resources and tools they need to ensure SPS products are delivered on time. An important part of that is ensuring that budgets are adequate and that we execute the program using time-proven program management tools and constantly measure performance against cost, schedule and performance goals and thresholds.

C: Given your day-to-day experience with the Standard Procurement System, how do you see SPS making an impact in DoD business functions?
G: SPS has already made a large impact by standardizing business practices across the enterprise, with uniform data formats and documentation of our transactions. Through SPS, we're achieving increased efficiency and cost savings in the acquisition of goods and services throughout DoD. An additional benefit is that when statutory and regulatory requirements are updated or changed, we can communicate the change immediately, DoD-wide.

C: What, would you say, is the most significant accomplishment SPS has made in the last year?
G: The most significant accomplishment we've made has been the continued deployment of Increment 2 (v4.2.2) to the Army following initial deployment with the Navy. The new functionality and enhancements to existing functions provided in Increment 2 include "Adapter" technology. The Adapter allows SPS to seamlessly integrate with a wide array of related systems across several Domains. Now SPS has the ability to cull, synthesize, and transmit data elements directly to related systems throughout DoD, reducing data re-entry and automatically populating other databases, reducing time and resource needs of financial management organizations. With the Adapter, data flows seamlessly between SPS sites and a series of other related systems in the logistics, finance, and vendor communities.

In addition to the desktop SPS software and we'll talk about Increment 3 in a bit, I'm happy to report that we've made significant strides in providing direct support to our Warfighters through our SPS-Contingency (SPS-C) project. In SPS-C, we're looking at new tool sets for the Warfighters on the ground to help them conduct daily business tasks more easily and efficiently. An excellent example is the eSF44, a simplified, electronic, hand-held ordering tool that we've used to automate yet another part of the procurement process. We've successfully tested this device in Iraq and Djibouti with Field Ordering Officers/

C: You mentioned Increment 3; how do you expect its implementation to impact users across DoD?
G: Increment 3 will change the work dynamic associated with the traditional approach to contracting and procurement. The web-based platform provides flexibility to match today's dynamic work environment – we no longer work strictly at the office between the hours of 9 and 5. With today's technologies, more and more workers are accomplishing their tasks on the road, in hotel rooms, and many are even telecommuting from home on a regular basis. Putting SPS on a web-based platform, especially in an organization as widely spread and as mobile as the United States Department of Defense, will give us maximum flexibility as to how we manage our work load, our work force, and, ultimately, how we accomplish the mission.

C: Looking ahead, where do you see SPS going in the next year? In the next five years?
G: This will be a very exciting time for SPS as we move to a web-delivered system, giving us access to new hosting options and technologies and providing significantly improved business intelligence capabilities. We'll be able to provide tool sets across the Department that affect how and where procurement can be accomplished.

In the next five years, SPS will play a large role in business transformation. In fact, the SPS-JPMO is transitioning from the Army PEO-EIS to the recently created Defense Business Transformation Agency (BTA) on 1 October 2006.

C: What is the most significant challenge the JPMO faces in the next year?
G: Our most significant challenge will be demonstrating Increment 3' readiness to deploy through successful System Acceptance Testing and Pilot Site Deployments. We've just completed an intensive Government Verification and Validation Test.

C: What would you like SPS users to know about the JPMO that they don't know right now?
G: That we strive to be very conscious of their needs and requirements. Our goal has been to produce products that encompass the needs of all services, and all types of contracting. Still, we must recognize that there are limiting factors at work as we set about to achieve this goal—budget constraints, scheduling requirements, etc. But within our programmatic environment, our focus has been and will continue to be heavily on user needs.

C: Any advice for users either currently on Increment 2, or as they move onto Increment 3?
G: Business transformation is manifesting itself across the DoD. We're at a place now that, instead of looking at single solutions, we're looking at how those solutions will interact once they are in place. The prioritization of planning, integrating and building will save the Department significant time and money as we move forward in an increasingly joint environment.

The JPMO will continue to maintain and improve Increment 2 even as we begin to plan for Increment 3 roll-out. Look at Increment 3 as a totally new product. Business models today are changing rapidly, and people are now looking at cross-functional solutions. Those solution sets will transform over time. Requirements will no longer be managed in single environments, but rather managed across the entire platform. Plan on participating in the 2007 SPS Joint Users' Conference to learn more about Increment 3 and to sharpen your skills on Increment 2. Tell your Desk Officers what you want to see at the Conference – what learning opportunities are important to you.

Fun Denver Fact #376: In downtown Denver, within a one-mile radius, there are three sports stadiums, the country's second largest performing arts complex, an assortment of art and history

museums, a mint producing 10 billion coins a year, a river offering white water rafting, the country's only downtown amusement park, a new world-class aquarium, and over 300 restaurants, brewpubs and music clubs. View article.

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Automated Authorized Caller Process – Coming Soon!

The JPMO is currently updating and improving the Standard Procurement System (SPS) Authorized Caller process by developing an 'online' application through the SPS Center of Excellence (COE) website. Each government site that is using the SPS Desktop Defense (SPS PD2) software application in an operational environment must have an Authorized Caller in order to contact the SPS Help Desk. The Authorized Caller is eligible to contact the SPS Help Desk for support on the use of the SPS software. The number of PD2 users at the site determines the number of Authorized Callers.

The new Authorized Caller process automates application submittal and approvals, making it easier and more efficient for applicants, Desk Officers, the JPMO, and the Help Desk. In addition, the Authorized Caller page on the COE Portal will provide a 'one-stop-shop' for all your Authorized Caller needs. The Authorized Caller page will include:

- Authorized Caller news/announcements
- Detailed applicant instructions
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- Point of contact information
- Online Authorized Caller applications by Service
- Database tables that allow you to view the status of your application in real-time, as well as sort by DODAAC, Site Name, and much more!

The new Authorized Caller process is targeted to go live in mid-October. Additional details will be provided by your Component Desk Officer, as well as via the COE Portal. Stay tuned!

Note: If you are not already a member of the COE Portal, please click on the following link to register now: http://www.spscoe.sps.eis.army.mil/login.htm

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September/October 2006

This article is being reprinted from GovExec.com. View the original article by clicking underlined here.

Rule Would Require Acquisition Officials to Plan for Internet Upgrade

By Daniel Pulliam
dpulliam@govexec.com

A proposed amendment to the Federal Acquisition Regulation would require all agency information technology purchases to be compatible with the next-generation Internet to the maximum extent possible.

The amendment, proposed Thursday by the Civilian Acquisition Council and the Defense Acquisition Regulations Council, would ensure agencies comply with Internet Protocol version 6, or IPv6, requirements in acquisition plans.

Comments on the draft regulation are due by Oct. 23 and can be submitted at Regulations.gov.

The proposed rule states that agencies can reduce costly upgrades and the complexity of transitioning to IPv6 by proactively integrating requirements for the new Internet into their IT contracts.

Under IPv6, the number of IP addresses will increase from about 4.3 billion to an essentially unlimited number. Technology officials envision that everything from microwaves to cell phones will be assigned IP addresses.

The proposed change would support an August 2005 Office of Management and Budget mandate that requires all federal agencies to switch the backbone of their networks from the current Internet Protocol version 4 to the next-generation Internet by June 2008.

The OMB mandate also requires that all new IT procurements include IPv6 capable products and systems to the greatest extent possible. All exceptions require advance written approval from the agency's chief information officer.

A recent Government Accountability Office report found that several agencies had failed in meeting key milestones for making the transition to the next-generation Internet. The move promises to significantly increase the address space available on the Internet and revolutionize how it is used.

The GAO report found that despite the OMB deadline, the Pentagon is the only federal agency developing IPv6 applications. Another four agencies are considering them.

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Upcoming Events

Classes and events can do much to improve the way you work. Some upcoming informative programs include:

Intermediate Acquisition, Part A

Location: Distance learning (online)

Overview: Mid-level acquisitions professionals will learn systems acquisition principles and processes.

Information/Registration: http://www.dau.mil

Additional Benefit: 6 CEUs

Advanced Test and Evaluation

Date/Location: October 23—27, 2006/Kettering, OH

Overview: New technologies, lessons learned, and current issues in T&E are addressed in this five-day course. Its focus is student-centered learning with limited instructor-based lectures and a videoconference with Office of the Secretary of Defense T&E officials.

Information/Registration: http://www.dau.mil

Additional Benefit : 4.2 CEUs

Engineering Data Management

Date/Location: October 11—14, 2006/ Air Force Institute of Technology, Wright Patterson AFB, OH

Overview: This course discusses engineering data concepts for managers, program managers, engineers, logisticians, and equipment specialists. It identifies these requirements through the preparation, development, and sustainment of engineering data.

Information/Registration: http://www.afit.edu

Additional Benefit: 28 CLPs

Intermediate Acquisition Logistics

Date/Location: October 30—November 3, 2006/Rock Island, IL; Huntsville, AL; Port Hueneme, CA; Kettering, OH

Overview: This course will provide intermediate skills in on life-cycle cost, contracting, modeling and simulation, test and evaluation, market research and analysis, systems engineering, performance-based

logistics, and support planning.

Information/Registration: http://www.dau.mil

Additional Benefit: 11.2 CLPs

SPS 2007 Users Conference – New Frontiers: Acquisition Redefined

Date/Location: February 26—March 2, 2007/Adam's Mark Hotel, Denver, CO

Overview: A conference to benefit DoD acquisition professionals across all services. Speakers, exhibitors, breakout sessions, and hands-on learning related to current and future SPS software and related products will make you more efficient and the DoD stronger.

Information/Registration: More information coming soon. Visit the article in this issue of The SPS Connection.

Additional Benefit: New frontiers.

Fun Denver Fact #46:
Denver boasts 300 days of sunshine each year – that's more than San Diego or Miami!

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